

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 OIC-04 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 SAL-01 SS-14 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 L-03

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-09 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 AGR-20

NEA-10 RSR-01 /186 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: OCON, PFOR, ECAFE

SUBJECT: RED: ECAFE: 29 TH PLENARY- COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEM SEVEN

REF: BANGKOK 4137

1. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN: ASIAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING (AIEDP): ECAFE SECRETARIAT PLANS TO REVERSE AGENDA ITEMS SEVEN AND EIGHT SO THAT ADC PRESIDENT INNOUE WILL BE ABLE TO INFORM DELEGATES ABOUT THE FRIEDMAN REPORT AND THE ADB' S POSITION ON IT BEFORE THE DISCUSSION OPENS ON THE FUTURE COURSE OF AIEDP. (IN RED TELEGRAMS CONTAINING RECOMMENDED US POSITIONS WE ARE USING AGENDA ITEMS SEQUENCE GIVEN ECAFE DOCUMENT E/ CN. 11/ L.360 ISSUED 14 FEB 1973.)

2. BASED ON PRELIMINARY REPORTS OF THE MARCH 8 ADB COFFEE MEETING IN MANILA WE PRESUME THAT ADB PRESIDENT WILL NOT MAKE A COMMITMENT AT 29 TH PLENARY FOR PERMANENT BANK SUPPORT OF AIEDP. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THE AIEDP DIRECTOR' S REPORT TO PLENARY WILL PROBABLY BE LIMITED TO REVIEW OF PAST YEAR' S ACTIVITIES, AN
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OUTLINE OF PLANS FOR MOVE TO SINGAPORE AND PLANS FOR PHASE III SUPPORT OF THE INSTITUTE. HOWEVER, IT IS LIKELY THAT SUBJECT WILL FIRST BE RAISED AT HEADS OF DELEGATION MEETING WHERE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY WILL MAKE PLEA FOR PHASE III FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM ECAFE MEMBER COUNTRIES.

3. WE DOUBT THAT EITHER ADB OR UNDP WILL HAVE MADE FINAL AND IRREVOCABLE DECISION BY MID- APRIL ON FRIEDMAN REPORT AND ON THEIR FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE INSTITUTE. HOWEVER, THE FRIEDMAN REPORT HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO ADB MEMBERS, THE GOVERNING COUNCIL AND THE AIDP DIRECTOR AND MAY THEREFORE BE FREELY DISCUSSED. THE REPORT CONTAINS ALTERNATIVE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING FUTURE FINANCING AND CONTROL OF THE INSTITUTE, AS WELL AS OPERATIONS, WHICH SHOULD BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED AND DISCUSSED BEFORE PHASE III FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS ARE SOUGHT ON A BUSINESS- AS- USUAL BASIS.

4. PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO CONSERVATIVE USE OF PHASE II FUNDS INSTITUTE WILL HAVE APPROXIMATELY \$430,000 AVAILABLE TO HELP CARRY IT THROUGH MOVE TO SINGAPORE AND MOST OF 1974. THERE IS CONSEQUENTLY SUFFICIENT TIME TO GIVE FULL CONSIDERATION TO FRIEDMAN RECOMMENDATIONS OR ALTERNATIVE COURSES BEFORE A DECISION NEEDS TO BE MADE ON FUTURE FINANCING OF AIDP OR INAUGURATION OF PHASE III. DELEGATIONS AT 29 TH SESSION WILL OBVIOUSLY NOT BE ABLE TO GIVE FINAL ANSWERS, SINCE TOO MANY FACTORS ARE STILL UNCLEAR AND UNDETERMINED. THE COMMISSION COULD, HOWEVER, DECIDE TO CHARGE A SPECIAL WORKING GROUP, COMPOSED OF PRMREPS AND/ OR GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES TO STUDY ENTIRE SITUATION AND PRESENT RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS FOR FINAL ACTION AT 30 TH SESSION. CONSIDER INAPPROPRIATE TO CHARGE GOVERNING COUNCIL WITH THIS TASK SINCE ITS WON EXISTENCE IS AT STAKE. (SEE ALSO BANGKOK 3076 FEB 26 AND A-43 FEB 13)

5. RE ITEM SEVEN (B), WE RECOMMEND THAT IN KEEPING WITH ECAFE PRACTICE USDEL SUPPORT ELECTION OF INDIAN CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNING COUNCIL TO REPLACE DECEASED HARIVASH LAL. UNGER

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